



sdasGeneral  
Assembly

## ***Substitute Bill No. 5432***

*January Session, 2011*

\*       HB05432HS      032311      \*

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING LIMITS ON SANCTIONS UNDER THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17b-688c of the general statutes is  
2       repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3       *1, 2011*):

4       (b) In no event shall temporary family assistance be granted to an  
5       applicant for such assistance, who is not exempt from participation in  
6       the employment services program, prior to the applicant's attendance  
7       at an initial scheduled employment services assessment interview and  
8       participation in the development of an employment services plan. The  
9       Department of Social Services shall not delay temporary family  
10      assistance to an applicant in cases where the department schedules the  
11      initial employment services assessment interview more than ten  
12      business days after the date on which application for assistance is  
13      made, or in cases where the Labor Department does not complete an  
14      employment services plan for the benefit of the applicant within ten  
15      business days of the date on which the applicant attends an  
16      employment services assessment interview. The Commissioner of  
17      Social Services shall refer any applicant denied temporary family  
18      assistance, who may be in need of emergency benefits, to other  
19      services offered by the Department of Social Services or community  
20      services that may be available to such applicant. The Department of

21 Social Services shall reduce the benefits awarded to a family under the  
22 temporary family assistance program when a member of the family  
23 who is required to participate in employment services fails to comply  
24 with an employment services requirement without good cause. The  
25 first instance of noncompliance with an employment services  
26 requirement shall result in a twenty-five per cent reduction of such  
27 benefits [for three consecutive months] until the family member  
28 complies with the employment services requirement. The second  
29 instance of noncompliance with such requirement shall result in a  
30 thirty-five per cent reduction of such benefits [for three consecutive  
31 months] until the family member complies with the employment  
32 services requirement. A third or subsequent instance of noncompliance  
33 with such requirement shall result in [the termination of such benefits  
34 for three consecutive months] a fifty per cent reduction of such benefits  
35 until the family member complies with the employment services  
36 requirement. [If only one member of a family is eligible for temporary  
37 family assistance and such member fails to comply with an  
38 employment services requirement, the department shall terminate all  
39 benefits of such family for three consecutive months.]  
40 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the department  
41 shall [terminate the] reduce by fifty per cent benefits awarded to a  
42 family under the temporary family assistance program if a member of  
43 the family who is not exempt from the twenty-one-month time limit  
44 specified in subsection (a) of section 17b-112 fails, without good cause,  
45 to: (1) Attend any scheduled assessment appointment or interview  
46 relating to the establishment of an employment services plan, except  
47 that such individual's full benefits shall be reinstated if the individual  
48 attends a subsequently scheduled appointment or interview within  
49 thirty days of the date on which the department has issued notification  
50 to the individual that benefits have been [terminated] reduced, or (2)  
51 comply with an employment services requirement during a six-month  
52 extension of benefits. [Any individual who fails to comply with the  
53 provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection may submit a new  
54 application for such benefits at any time after termination of benefits.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	17b-688c(b)
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***Statement of Legislative Commissioners:***

In the new language of section 1, "employment service requirements" was changed to "employment services requirement" for internal consistency. In section 1(b)(1), "benefits have terminated" was changed to "benefits have been [terminated] reduced" for consistency and conformity with the other changes to the subsection.

***HS***        *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*